

SEVENTY PERSONS KILLED.

*A STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION ON THE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER.*

Nearly One Hundred Passengers Harled into the Air—Falling into the Hurrying Boat and into the River—About Seventy Persons Scalded to Death or Drowned.

ST. LOUIS, April 11.—The steamboat *Oceanus*, from Red River for St. Louis, when near Brooks' Point, twenty miles above Cairo, at 4 o'clock this morning, while making a turn, tearing the boat fore and aft, and making a complete wreck of her. All the officers of the boat are reported killed, and many passengers scalded to death or drowned. No names have yet been received. There were sixty-five passengers on board, and it is reported that but four or five were saved.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

CAIRO, Ill., April 11.—At 4 o'clock this morning the steamer *Oceanus*, from Red River to St. Louis, was wrecked about twenty miles above Cairo, exploded her boiler, blowing her upper works almost entirely away. Imma-

diately afterward the wreck took fire and burned to the water's edge.

The engineer, pilot and the steamer John J. Madden, which was lying a few miles below, on seeing the light from the burning wreck, lowered a yawl and proceeded up the river to ascertain the cause. He found a small party of survivors on the wreck, but pointed out to rescuers those on the wreck. Two of them, clinging to the wheel, but the wreck dropped below he reached them, and all but four were lost. He found a deck passenger, name unknown, near the water, and badly scalded, who died before arrival at St. Louis.

The Belle St. Louis, bound up, took nearly all the survivors. Thompson rescued pilot Harris, who subsequently went to St. Louis on the Marble City. The latter states that Wiggins, the engineer, was killed, and that Capt. Wiggins, pilot on the watch, and Capt. Reader were buried in the debris and were heard calling desperately for help, but the fire had gained such headway that they could not be reached, and they were killed.

The steamer, which reached here on the Shreve, was not seriously hurt. He states that the second engineer, Alexander Kaneady, terribly

George Keithley, first engineer, is supposed to be lost. Henry M. Woodman, first clerk, has not been seen since the explosion; he expected to go through from Cairo by rail, but was seen on the river, but not on the boat. The second clerk, Jules Demmewoff, steward, and Charley Muray, cabin boy, were found dead, floating in the river, all with life preservers on, and were brought here by the steamer Shreve. It is supposed they were chilled to death. There were also two women, of whom one is supposed to be lost. The bodies of four ladies were seen floating past Watson's landing to-day, but were not recovered.

Fisher thinks that the pilot, Harris, and himself were the only employees of the boat saved, and that the completely competent crew were some. The officers of the Shreve say that there were about thirty cabin and thirty-five deck passengers, making, with the crew, nearly 100 souls, about eighty of whom are supposed to have been lost. The greater portion of the survivors being the women, the complete number of the survivors, nor any reliable estimate of the number lost, can be obtained except from her.

Fisher describes the effects of the explosion as terrific before conception, the whole upper works being lifted bodily and falling on the boat, and the lower works being completely destroyed. He saved himself by securing a plank and floating until rescued by the yawl, the lower works being completely destroyed. The yawl was covered with

The Judiciary investigating committee, of the Judiciary Committee, held a session yesterday morning at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

William Holden was examined in relation to the suit to recover the Union Pacific Railroad, and ex-Judge Fulton's payment of \$50,000 to discontinue the suit. His testimony proved the payment of the money to Fulton by Fulton, and the discontinuance of the suit.

Judge Carlson was present with his counsel, who testified in regard to certain orders granted by the Judge in the case. He also testified that the orders in question were put in as evidence. J. V. Valentine, Carlson's bank account, and showed that he was a merely nominal owner of the bank.

Mr. Graham, of the committee, has completed a list of about five hundred cases in the District Attorney's office, and is now examining the papers and office books, but in examining the papers satisfactory evidence is being found, and the committee is now looking not showing a satisfactory evidence, the clerk is now.

In the evening the case of Judge McBurn was taken up.

[illegible]

Gen. Pryor has been sick at his home when I first came to New York. You have been as many times as I have to the Governor but I have not seen you. I do have enemies, but no favorites. Mr. McCann,

Judge McCann, my old partner is Judge, Mr. Canna, McCann, and I have been together for twenty years as Judge of the Court, but not of *care*.

Gen. McCann said that he knew Judge McCann. He asked Gen. Pryor to act as counsel for Corey, in a case which was in the record in *care*. Judge McCann himself.

Here the committee adjourned.

THE TRIFE QUESTION.

A Split in the Ways and Means Committee.
The Free-Traders Carrying their Point.
—Mr. James Colfax.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The Ways and Means Committee have finally ended their work

ter's deliberations in what bids fair to be the loss of their Tariff bill. Mr. Dawes to-day moved to report the Tax bill, which repeals and consolidates the internal taxes, and let the House adjourn it at once. Mr. Fitchburg and Mr. Burchard opposed this, and after a warm debate it was decided to do so. Mr. Fitchburg, Mr. Brooks, Beck, and Kerr, and the yeas Dawes, Kelly, Maynard, and Roberts. Mr. Burchard said that he would not be forced to do with it, when upon the committee directed Mr. Burchard by the same vote to report the tariff and tax matters in the one bill, and not to do so in two bills. He said that he should not consider himself bound to give the

This open rupture has caused considerable talk in the House, and clearly indicates that no compromise will be made with the Senate. The bill will probably come out of committee next Monday, and the appropriation bills will follow. There will be a recess for two weeks, and then there will have to be two or three weeks of open debate before the bill is taken up by second reading and passed. Nearly June first will find nothing agreed on and the session will have cooled down at a period when it will be too late to harmonize the various interests. With the session renewed he expects the Senate to continue in Mercier's House bill to put tea and coffee duties on a par with those on other articles of import taxes at one dash. This done, the House will then no doubt relieve the Ways and Means Committee of its task of devising a schedule of the adjustment question, and concentrate in the Senate resolution to adjourn on May 28.